

# 'PIG WOMAN' SAW HENRY STEVENS AT HALL MURDER SCENE, JURY TOLD

## Simpson Assails Widow

by LEO J. CASEY  
GRAPHIC Staff Correspondent

SOMERSET COUNTY COURT HOUSE, SOMERVILLE, N. J., Nov. 3.—Mrs. Frances Stevens Hall drove her brother, Willie Stevens, to within a stone's throw of De Russey's Lane on the night the Rev. Edward Wheeler Hall and Mrs. Eleanor Mills were murdered near the deserted pathway.

This was the startling testimony this afternoon of John S. Dickson of North Plainfield, the first witness in the trial of Mrs. Hall, Willie and Henry Stevens.

At 8:45 on the night of September 14, 1922, 1 hour and 35 minutes before the slayings, Willie, according to Dickson, appeared at his home in North Plainfield and asked to be directed to the "Parker House." Stevens said his sister had "dropped him" there, the accountant declared.

Stevens had lost his way, walking from the Parker House, he said.

### Willie's Eyes Bulge

It was the most dramatic moment in the trial so far when the witness left the stand, walked over to the eccentric member of the Hall-Stevens clan and said:—

"This is the man."

Willie's eyes bulged but otherwise he gave no sign of emotion.

North Plainfield is from six to ten miles from the Parker House and Dickson and his wife, who corroborated his testimony.

Both testified that Willie's hand was deathly cold. Mrs. Dickson, too, walked over to Willie.

With court room agape the woman identified the defendant and held his hand to illustrate how she had felt it on the murder night.

The State of New Jersey will prove that the Rev. Edward Wheeler Hall met death first in his illicit tryst with Eleanor Mills, and that as he fell with a bullet through his brain his murderers killed the choir singer.

It was the assertion of Special Prosecutor Alexander W. Simpson today as he outlined his case to the jury of elderly men selected in record time to decide the fate of Mrs. Frances Stevens Hall and her brothers, Willie and Henry Stevens.

"— you, let go of me," were the shrill words which reached the ears of Mrs. Jane Gibson, the 'pig woman,' as she peered from behind the bushes near the fatal trysting place.

### Recognized Henry Stevens

Just before that, the special prosecutor declared, the rays of a flashlight had disclosed to her the features of Henry Stevens. She had previously recognized Mrs. Hall and Willie.

During the four years and fifty days which had elapsed since the slayings, the 'pig woman' to reporters, officials and a number of investigators had not placed Stevens at the

## On Way to Face Murder Trial



WALKING TO COURT HOUSE at Somerville, N. J., Mrs. Frances Stevens Hall, widow of slain rector (right), bore herself proudly. She was accompanied by Mrs. Edwin Carpenter (left), a relative.

scene of the crime. Henry Carpenter was the third person she identified.

It was rumored at the time of Henry Stevens' arrest that the state's star witness had changed her story. It seemed probable that she had failed to identify the fourth person indicted when Simpson made and won his plea for a separate trial for Carpenter.

### Secret Revealed

For the first time today, however, the state revealed that Mrs. Gibson would testify that she saw the marksman brother of Mrs. Hall and Willie.

The jury, with members of an average age of about 65, despite two in their early thirties, began the hearing of evidence this afternoon. They had been selected within an hour, record time for a murder case of such importance.

All are middle-class men, none of them remotely approaching the financial and social standing of the defendants. Small farmers, a clerk, a well-digger, a village merchant or two. Hardened and bent with their battle for existence, in rough, ill-fitting clothes, most of them, unyielding as the soil and the sturdy framework of the little towns which have given them their livelihood, they sat rigid and uncomfortable as the sharp, cutting

voice of the prosecutor rehearsed the sensational crime.

The slain widow's clergyman, sitting a few feet away from the gesticulating little prosecutor, showed no signs of emotion as he assailed her as

### HALL MURDER JURY

Following is a corrected list of the jurors in the Hall murder case:—

- 1—John A. Dunster, Somerville; merchant.
- 2—John W. Young, Middle-bush; farmer.
- 3—Rudolph Steffans, North Plainfield; teamster.
- 4—John B. Stryker, Somerville; clerk.
- 5—Edward S. Tellman, Raritan; superintendent.
- 6—Fred Sage, Warren township; farmer.
- 7—Raymond Young, Skillman; farmer.
- 8—Charles V. H. Skillman, Belle Mead; farmer.
- 9—William Dalley, Somerville; mason.
- 10—George O. Labaw, Nesha-nic Station; farmer.
- 11—Samuel B. Hope, North Branch; salesman.
- 12—Joseph A. Roach, Middle-bush; blacksmith.

a "cold woman whose pride had been hurt," as he accused her of lying when she claimed no knowledge of her husband's unfaithfulness, as he charged that she went to the scene of the murder to confront the rector with love letters from the choir singer.

During the dramatic description of the actual murders and the recital of her kneeling by her dead husband's body her terribly white face did not change in its steady, almost sullen expression.

### Willie Moves Uneasily

As the little prosecutor attacked her, however, Willie Stevens moved uneasily in his chair, his hands fumbled nervously and the eccentric brother who has been Mrs. Hall's greatest care throughout her life plainly showed his resentment.

A man who married for wealth, position and refinement, was Simpson's characterization of Dr. Hall, and one who paid the price of a loveless marriage.

Eleanor Mills, dissatisfied with the drab, colorless man she married, dreaming her dreams and longing for better things, reaching out for refinement, for culture, the thoughts good books could bring her, found these things with the

(Continued on Page 4 Col

## Jury of Men Over 60 Is Soon Picked

Special to The GRAPHIC

SOMERVILLE, N. J., Nov. 3.—Within the drab walls of the Somerset County Court House, New Jersey wrote a new record into its history of speedy justice today, when the Hall-Mills murder jury was selected in exactly one hour and twenty minutes.

With a precision and smoothness unparalleled, twelve men were chosen from the panel of twenty-eight to determine the guilt or innocence of Mrs. Frances Stevens Hall and her two brothers, Henry and Willie Stevens, three of the four charged with the killing of the Rev. Edward W. Hall and Mrs. Eleanor R. Mills.

Special Prosecutor Alexander W. Simpson had predicted that the jury would be completed before

(Continued on Page 4 Col. 4)

### ADVERTISEMENT

## POSLAM STOPS ITCHING AND LETS YOU SLEEP

Why lie awake, scratching your poor, burning skin until it is raw? The first touch of concentrated Poslam would stop the itching and bring peace and comfort. Poslam heals skin eruptions like magic. At all druggists—50c.

Write for special test box  
POSLAM CO.  
247 West 47 Street  
New York City

**FREE**

**Sure Relief**

HOME SIZE SAVES MONEY

**BELLANS FOR INDIGESTION**

HEARTBURN, SOUR STOMACH, HEADACHE, DIZZINESS, GAS, DISTRESS FROM EATING OR DRINKING, ACUTE INDIGESTION

SOLD AND GUARANTEED BY EVERY DRUGGIST